



FLORIDA SKIP

VOL. 9 NO. 12

The All Florida Radio Amateur's Publication

MAY 1966

Price 20¢

Tornado Sweeps Across North Florida

TORNADO OPERATION

W4MLE Sec W. Fla.

This has to be one of the most casually - run big operations Florida ever ran. The storms themselves did very little actual damage to communication. Red Cross and CD had plenty of good landlines right into the disaster areas right from the start. Traffic was so light that W4IYT put the operation on Condition Four by about 1900 GMT.

Then the radio and the afternoon newspapers began to get the word to the general public in the rest of the state. And when the news hit the early evening TV network reports, the deluge began. By late afternoon or early evening, you couldn't get a phone call into south Florida for love or bribery and this went on for three or four days.

Net Charlie was the first circuit running, and for most of the first day (Monday April 4) this was adequate to handle whatever there was. But then the evening long skip was bringing in lots of queries. QFN began operation at its scheduled time (2330Z) and didn't close down for another five or six hours. By 0330Z April 5, the peak load was making Net Charlie rather top-heavy, so Net Bravo was cranked to pick up the overflow. Bravo didn't close down until 0645 or so. I called a single CQ TFC QTC FLA? QSP DE W4MLE on 3550 Kc. and got two answers immediately -- one from Michigan and one from Ontario, each

(Continued on Page 16)



AERIAL VIEW shows awesome fury of tornado in Gibsonsia Lakeland area. Hundreds of messages were jammed on our Florida ARPSC nets for days after tornados hit about 7 cities. EC, W4FP Lakeland will have full report for next months SKIP.

(Photo by John Slack for the Lakeland Ledger)

Viking Princess Disaster At Sea

By Ken Lewis, K4GUE

(EDITOR'S NOTE: The following is a true story by Ken Lewis K4GUE of Fort Myers Beach read on...)

PART I

Screeching and whirring the steel cables unwound and raced thru the blocks of the davits as the huge forty foot whale boat plunged downward sixty feet below to crash into the sea! This

was a successful launching of a lifeboat from the decks of a flaming luxury cruise ship, the "Viking Princess."

An hour before merriment had abounded in the main lounge where a costume ball was in full swing. Dot and I didn't participate in the masquerade but did attend in evening dress. We went up on deck to relax and enjoy the beautiful moonlight and

sea. After twenty seven years of hardwork and children -- and grandchildren, things quieted down a little and we took this opportunity to have a honeymoon. Dot had won this cruise in the Caribbean in a Miami contest and we were really living it up.

Suddenly the throb of the engines ceased and only the rush-

(Continued on Page 16)

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ADVERTISING MGR. - Frank Orcutt, W4JO
Miami, Fla. Ph. 444-0481
SPECIAL ASSISTANT
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Virginia Gardens, Fla. 33166

Second class postage paid at Miami, Fla. Published monthly.

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Deadline - 10th of month in Box 501, Miami Springs, Fla. 33166.

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Dear Mabel XYL Award, c/o Skip, Box 501, Miami Springs, Fla.

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W. FLORIDA NEWS, Frank Butler, Jr., W4RKH, 404 E. Elliot Rd., Ft. Walton Beach.

West Palm Beach, Roy Carter, - WA4SFF, 2320 Fairway Dr., West Palm Beach 33401.



Letters To Editor

Kudos to the staff of SKIP on achieving 10 years of faithful service! About your survey: I like SKIP as it is and has been. News items about Florida activities, net reports and highlights on our active personnel are my main interest and are not available anywhere else. Although nothing is so perfect that improvement is impossible, I have no changes to recommend.

Sorry I didn't comment on the 1965 calendar. It occupied a prominent place in the shack and was used right up to December 31st. If there are any left, here is my SASE.

Keep up the good work!

73,
Herb
K4KDN

(EDITOR'S NOTE: Thanks Herb, We have plenty of 1966 calendars left for the asking and a SASE. 73 AC)

Here I am in sunny British West Indies in the very muddy waters of the Caribbean (well...not really muddy).

The address below should get 'Skip' and any other mail to my hands for the next 12 months.

For that time if all goes according to the master plan, I shall be here on the 'door to the 'New World' that Columbus opened.' Here on that fateful day of October 12, 1492, after 70 days of open sea, Ole Chris landed, as evidenced by the confusing trio of land markers, each proclaiming that very spot for the first landfall of our Italian benefactor.

Supposedly the very place I am standing now was his very first Port. This 12 by 5 mile coral and sand spur mountain has about a thousand inhabitants descended from cotton plantation slaves and local Indians, who live mostly from their own gardens and the sea, now that the Air Force's Pan-am tracking station has all but closed down.

The first observation you make when you arrive at this picturesque island is how beautiful the sea looks. The second is the wonder at how they can grow so many sand-spurs in so little space. It is probable that the island can also claim more sand-spurs per capita, than anywhere else on earth.

They didn't give me much time to think about anything...just about 5 days altogether and SZOT here I wake up in the Caribbean 500 miles from any where. But it is kinda like the dreams people have...like they always wanted to go to a South Sea Isle and live the rest of their life. Now I wake up already in that kinda dream HO, HO, HO.

Hope to be able to get on the air soon... 73

D.L. Franklin ET3
USCG Loran Station
San Salvador, Bahamas
FPO
New York, NY 09557

FLORIDA SKIP
Contest Chairman

Dear Sir:

Here is my log for the 1966 Florida QSO party. I enjoyed the party very much but was not impressed by the showing of the Florida hams on phone. I know that on CW there were quite

a few on the air but the phone boys just weren't there. On Saturday night April 2, there were only two stations on 75 meters working the QSO party. I hope, for the sake of future QSO Parties, that the Hams of Florida will get on the air a bit more than they did in this one. As an example of the above my logs show that out of 30 Florida stations worked only 4 had more than 5 contacts. This really surprised me.

I would like to point out the two hour break on 3 April between 2025 z and 2226z. This was caused by the Contest column in CQ mag. As you no doubt know they said it was all over at 2000z. I didn't find out they were wrong until too late. Soooo that's that.

Looking forward to hearing from you soon I remain,

Sincerely,
Wayne T. Topa WA1BBB/4
302 S. Wilson St.
Crestview, Fla. 32536

Editor:

I've read in the FLORIDA SKIP that you always are looking for Pics of the different "Ham Shacks" so I thought I'd drop you a Pic and a little info about my Station here at the Vets Hospital. (See Photo elsewhere).

First of all, this station is owned and operated by myself. It is not a "Club" station although any patient coming here and can show a valid operators license is welcome to operate the station in my presence. The Lash-up Antennas are a Mosley TA 36 Beam. Also use a Lafayette HE 45 B six Meter rig. On 40 and 75 we use a Hi Gain Trap antenna. I am a member of quite a few nets and handle quite a bit of traffic although I don't take time to turn it in for credit. I am very active in the International Handicappers Net and also the Veterans Administration Hospital Net.

In the Pic you can see the new 4 Channel Stereo which was just recently installed here at Bay Pines. It consists of four AM-FM Tuners, two turntables and built in Ampex automatic tape recorder. Provisions to pick up the Chapel services on Sundays and also any musicals or shows that are held in the Auditorium.

Maybe I should explain that the new Hospital Stereo System is all solid state and carries different FM Stereo stations to all beds. All beds being equipped with headphones.

Have been a patient here for 18 years, Andy, and on the air since 1955.

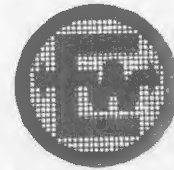
Best 73
Ralph A. Peters K4RKY
Box 3984
Veterans Hospital
Bay Pines, Fla. 33504

The Tampa Tribune here has been running a coupon in the paper called "Open Line to Viet Nam." The following is a transcript of a letter received by me resulting from same. I know many other papers in the state do the same thing so if you publish this letter all the other Viet Nam circuit operators will know their work is noticed and appreciated. You may wish to notify ARRL to chalk one up for the amateur "PICON" obligation. In regard to PICON obligations, The Tampa and Florida Hams did a

(Continued on Page 13)

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Florida SET May 7th

With all the tornadoes and stuff, who needs a Spring Drill? We do. That's who. This will be a short one, with a point. The general plan is to give every EC a good reason and chance to check out his local communications and emergency power, and to send reports on the drill, via the regular nets (in semi-emergency session) to their SECs, SCMs and ARRL HQ.

Local Drills

The EC of every county is urged to conduct a local exercise of some sort sometime during the day of May 7. The drill should be concluded prior to 2100 GMT. Otherwise the time and the length of the drill doesn't matter. It can be just a straight drill or a simulated emergency of some sort, but there are three rules:

- (1) The local telephones don't work
- (2) There is no commercial electric power
- (3) FORMAL radiograms (at least one) must originate from each station (not each operator, necessarily) in the drill, addressed to the EC.

The local drill should make use of every possible piece of emergency-powered gear, including gas generator-driven rigs, mobiles and hand-carried battery portables. Each of these units should originate one formal radiogram addressed to the EC.

Up to this time (2100Z), only local operations are involved. The regular nets (BRAVO, CHARLIE, DELTA, ECHO) have not been activated. Each EC makes up a message text similar to the following and containing the same information about his drill:

PODUNK COUNTY DRILL FROM 1800Z to 1930Z X
RECEIVED SEVEN RADIOGRAMS FROM FIELD UNITS
USING EMERGENCY POWER X SIXTEEN OPERATORS
ACTIVE X 73

JOE WG4XXX
EC PODUNK COUNTY

This text is sent as separate radiograms to the following: W4IYT, Miami Springs; W4MLE, Tallahassee; W4RKH, Ft. Walton Beach; K4SJH, Pompano Beach; W1NJM, ARRL, Newington, Conn; The EC of any one or two Key Cities.

Each EC then prepares to send these messages from the station or stations which will represent his county on the long-haul emergency nets. These stations, also, must be on emergency power or they can't participate in the drill.

State-Wide Drill

At 2200 GMT, 7 May, establish Condition Two, activating all Key Cities on Nets Bravo, Charlie and Delta. Key City operations need not be on emergency power during this portion of the alert. However, every other station checking into any net for drill participation must be on emergency power. No drill activity, either local or state-net, can be counted for credit unless it is conducted on emergency power. The Key Cities are excused from this for general net operation (not for the local drills) because their normal functions are to back up local emergency operations.

At 2200Z, ECs may begin sending their reports, using the

TRAFFIC HOUNDS

NET	QNI	QTC	SESSIONS	AVG TFC
FAST	946	364	27	13.48
GATOR	275	171	31	5.5
WPTN	664	203	31	6.5
FPTN	442	221	27	8.1
FMTN	651	480	27	17.8
TPTN	789	380	27	14.1
VHFTN	90	18	20	.9
QFN	703	491	62	—
RATT	171	39	31	1.25



This birds-eye view of Tandy Way (blind) K4YSN of South Miami was taken by his side-kick Glynn WA4LHK. Before turning public service minded, Tandy collected QSL cards as the wall behind him indicates. K4YSN/WA4LHK pass traffic by the buckets full on our Florida HF and VHF nets. Listen for Tandy's show on WEDR-fm (Miami) Monday nites at 10 p.m.

(Photo via K3FYS)

h.f. nets of their choice. (The EC himself need not do it, of course. He, as the ARPSC team leader, sees that it gets sent.)

The nets may be directed or free, as the Manager sees fit, according to the volume of traffic. They will run until the normal time for concluding their daily sessions as traffic nets, or until they run out of traffic, and thereafter will close at the net Manager's discretion.

Scoring

Scores for each county will be published in SKIP as soon as possible. Scoring is as follows:

- For each local unit on emergency power which sends a message to the EC. 1 point
- For each report message from the EC to MLE, IYT, RKH, SJH, NJM and Key Cities (10 pts. max) 1 point
- For each ARPSC member participating in drill (by actually operating a station) 1 point

Nothing may be counted for a score unless it was done on emergency power (this includes credit for Key Cities, too. E.g., Key Cities can't claim credit points for operators at stations on commercial power even though commercial power operation in the drill is okay for Key Stations.)

To get any credit, the EC must send this report to his SEC (W4IYT or W4MLE) by radiogram (Mail won't count) on a regular traffic net within one week after the drill. I.e., by May 14. SEE YOU ON SET.

Field Daze

Now is the time for individuals as well as clubs and groups in the ARRL Field Organization to begin formulating plans for the ARRL Field Day, June 25 and 26. This annual test of emergency gear should prove particularly challenging this year.

For the first time, a Spirit of Field Day bonus will be offered for furtherance of at least two of the basic objectives of accurate traffic handling, good public

relations and complete operation under emergency power. Full reporting forms are now available without charge from the ARRL Communications Department, 225 Main Street, Newington, Connecticut 06111. Please state the number needed.

(ARRL OB 52)



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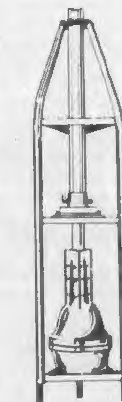
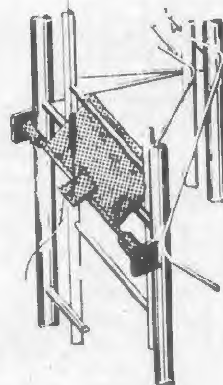
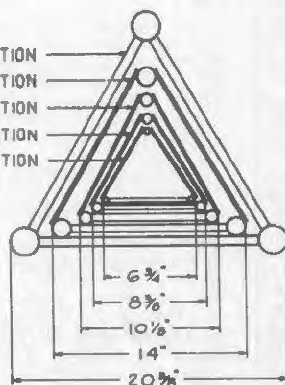
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NO. 12 SECTION
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Concrete

CLUB NEWS

B.A.R.C.

By Jim Wilson, WA4RXG

Jack Wainright has received templates of the Tone Comparator from Don Layman for use in B.A.R.C. building these units for sightless hams. It is hoped that this project can be put on a "production line" basis soon with many members completing individual parts which will then be assembled and wired.

It appears that Hank Roth, K4EYV, the new Broward County Emergency Coordinator, is really on the ball. Not only is he checking carefully on the availability of all Emergency Net members but is also maintaining close liaison with the Red Cross and Civil Defense. This was evident in connection with the recent tornadoes in Central Florida.

B.A.R.C. wants to thank all the many visitors and members who made our recent Auctionfest held in Ft. Lauderdale such a success. Four hundred attended and many amazing bargains changed hands.

Broward Amateur Radio Club meets at the Broward County Medical Association Building, 2200 So. Andrews Ave., Ft. Lauderdale, at 8 PM, the second Wednesday of each month. Interesting programs are your reward. Everyone is welcome.

DADE RADIO CLUB

By WAEDP

Things have been a little on the quiet side around the Dade club lately. Sort of a let down after the Ham-boree which sets in this time every year. The Ham-boree was a success this year in spite of the nasty remarks of "never say die." We have, as a matter of fact, already signed a contract for the use of the auditorium in 1967. That is the way we feel about it, so there. The Ham-boree is actually the biggest bargain in a hamfest you can get. Look through the announcements in QST some time and check on the registration fees they charge at other affairs and compare them with the \$1.00 we have been getting. The way things are going, however, the one buck

registration may have to go the way of the dodo. Inflation and all that you know. Plans are afoot for a better than ever show at the lowest possible cost in '67 and we will bust a you know what to bring it to you.

A Field Day Committee is already at work so look out, we are after one of those SKIP FD trophies this year.

I must apologize for the brevity of the column this month, but I just got this job and have not been able to accumulate much info to pass along. Will do better in the future I assure you.

The club is meeting at the same time and place, 8:00 P.M. at the museum of Science and Industry, the first and third Tuesday of every month. Come on down and join us, won't you? We'd love to have you.

FT..MEYERS CLUB

By Ken, W4SMK

Earl Spencer, K4PQU filled in for President Bob Propp who was on vacation at the last club meeting. There was no scheduled program, and a general technical discussion was followed by refreshments and the usual gab fest.

Ed. Roller, W4WYJ reports the best score so far in the ARRL DX Test with some 138,600 points made with 150 watts on CW. W4KET did quite well also, and W4PJC, W4LNE, and several others were active on phone.

The SS boys forgot to send a letter to ARRL from the Club so our club totals did not appear in QST. However, of the E. Fla. entries in SS over one third were from our club. If our club score had been printed it would have been 267,994 points, which is quite respectable. W4WYJ was the Club CW winner, beating out W4KET by a whisker. The phone winner was Ron, W4UFW, which is FB since he has not participated in many contests so far, but showed real championship form in this one.

We are anxiously awaiting word that Ken Lewis, K4GUE and his wife Dot, W4MUY, are all right since they were on the cruise ship Viking Princess which burned in the Caribbean. They live at the Beach, and Ken is quite

active in MARS and the Coast Guard Auxiliary. Dot had won the trip as the result of a contest she entered.

W4SMK and W4KET were both active in the Fla. QSO Party, although Heb was only able to get on for a few minutes. It was a FB contest and it's lots of fun to be on the other end of a pile up for a change. I heard many more Fla. stations on this time, and there should be some real fine totals turned in. Mine was 20,280 points.

Herb Reaves W4KET is building a ham shack in his big garage since a growing family has finally pushed him out of the house which he once thought was plenty big enough. No telling what kind of contest scores he will turn in now with no static from the junior operators.

73 Ken

GAINESVILLE NEWS

By Bill Wells, K4RDP

On April 5th, the Gainesville Amateur Radio Society had the pleasure of having Albert "Ham" Hamel, K4-SJH attend a Dinner Meeting at the Park Lane Cafeteria. The banquet room was filled to near capacity and after a brief business meeting, the floor was turned over to our Visiting Dignitary.

As our S.E. Div. V-Dir., Ham spoke on the Tampa-Lakeland-Cocoa tornado situation and stressed the importance of working real close with your local E.C. "And don't forget, that a disaster of this type could just as easily happen here," he said. He added, "It is most important that ALL ARPSC members keep their equipment in READY CONDITION at all times." He indicated that in some areas, communications were completely out and where phones were working, the offices were swamped with calls. Looks like Ham Radio has paid-off again.

Ham was asked about a rumor that the FCC was going to give their official answer in re; Incentive Licensing at the ARRL National Convention to be held soon in Boston. Ham said that he had heard the same rumor and didn't know for sure. If this is true, we'll know soon enough in QST.

Ham talked of many other topics, equally interesting and informing. We certainly enjoyed his visit and are looking forward to seeing him and Chuck at the Orlando Hamfest. Come again, Ham, anytime...

Mich, W4UW and Lamar W4FLJ (EC's Alachua and Bradford Counties) are working John, W4GUJ EC Duval County regularly now on 29.55 mc-FM. John's Ten Meter Ground Plane is only up 30 feet at this time. It will be much better as soon as he gets some height to it.

We are certainly pleased with the way we are getting good tie-in with the adjacent counties. Levy, Bradford and Columbia are now in touch with Alachua county and Putnam county is getting several Base Stations on 29.55 mc also. If we could just get Marion county to do the same, we feel we'd have North-Central Florida pretty well covered. Also we're rethinking of getting a certain someone in Keystone Heights (Clay County) to join us. With this coverage, not only could we have some interesting Simulated Emergency Tests, but how valuable the coverage in case of the Real Thing. United we stand, Divided we fall...

Walk W4TKE, recently appointed a director of the Local Boy's Club. The members of the GARS voted unanimously to donate \$15.00 toward

the Vice-Directors Fund to assist Ham in attending the next Executive Board Meeting in the ARRL. We hear that other clubs have done the same.

We salute those stations that worked so hard to get traffic in out of the disaster areas during the recent Tornadoes south of us. May the Stars in your Crowns shine brighter than ever...

73 Bill

H.A.R.S. NEWS

By Bill Lynn, K4VAO

Due to the tornado hitting North Tampa the board of directors meeting for HARS was cancelled this month. There were also a lot of other plans changed for a great many people. Hillsborough County Civil Defense got a good workout and at this writing is still going strong. Radio amateurs in the area and HARS in particular have commended for an excellent performance in assisting in the Hillsborough County Tornado Emergency. The operating frequencies were 147.-270 mc RACES Net and 3940 Kc. Emergency Net.

North Tampa was hit very hard. 139 homes and 20 trailers were completely destroyed and another 500 homes were damaged to some degree. This correspondent experienced his first tornado while working in the Forest Hills Post Office. The building escaped major damage but the mail trucks and private owned vehicles did not fare so well. HARS member, Harvey Wittner, W4AJM, home was completely destroyed and our sympathy goes out to him and his family.

Most people around here will trade a tornado for a hurricane anytime. HARS members are getting ready for SET (Simulated Emergency Test) to be conducted May 7, 1966. Jim Bingham W4KRC, EC for Hillsborough County asks all amateurs to participate and call him at 832-8051 for information.

All RACES members are readying their gear and emergency power supplies for the civil defense exercise to take place May 21, 1966. All amateurs that can participate please call Ray Murphy, W4BNE, at 835-5981.

At HARS last regular meeting plans were discussed for having a picnic at Rowlett Park on May 29, 1966. Also discussed as most always was the annual HARS Hamfest to be held in Oct. this year. Got to go on duty for C.D. now. See you next month.

73

NOFARS NEWS

By Jesse H. Morris, W4MYB

The March meeting of the North Florida Amateur Radio Society was held at the studios of WJXT-TV in Jacksonville. After a brief business meeting we were treated to a tour of the entire building. Our tour included the transmitter room where old friend Bob Reid, W4TK was on duty. The amateurs of the staff at Channel Four were our hosts and guides. It was a very enjoyable evening and we wish to thank the station management for inviting us.

Our local AREC activities are really blooming and we are ready for the Florida SET on May 7th. George, W4MRK, who is net manager for the Duval County AREC Net on 21.440 MHz Thursday at 0200Z is doing a great job. The net has nearly thirty

FLORIDA ARPSC NETS

FLORIDA PHONE TRAFFIC NET --- Daily, except Sunday, 3945 kc, 1200GMT.

GATOR NET (C.W.) --- Daily, 3651 kc, 1330GMT.

FLORIDA MIDDAY TRAFFIC NET --- Daily, except Sunday, 3945 kc, 1700GMT.

TROPICAL PHONE TRAFFIC NET --- Daily, 3945 kc, 2200 GMT.

QFN ALL FLORIDA CW NET --- Daily, 3651 kc, 2330 and 0300GMT.

FLORIDA "FAST" SSB NET --- Daily, except Saturday, 3940 kc, 2300GMT.

WEST FLORIDA PHONE NET --- Daily, 3950 kc, 2300GMT.

FLORIDA AMATEUR TELETYPE TRAFFIC NET --- Daily, 3705 kc., 2400GMT.

SOUTH FLORIDA VHF TRAFFIC NET --- Daily, except Tue., 50,200 kc., 0100GMT.

check-ins every week and George is giving everyone a chance to originate and handle traffic on this net. It is going well and is an excellent place to look for trained operators for SET, for Field Day, or for a bonafide emergency.

The August issue of QST shows that NOFARS members W4MVB and WA4UFW took third and fourth place in Eastern Florida for the phone section of Sweepstakes. Billy, WA4UFW, also did well in the CW section with nearly 30,000 points. Too bad we didn't have a few more entries.

John, W4GUY, plans a good test of local AREC units in the May 7th SET. John usually runs a fine show for these operations and we believe this will top them all.

That is about all for this month except to say that all of us in North Florida are looking forward to seeing our old friends at Orlando on April 30th and May 1st. Until next month 73 and good luck.

DE W4MVB

NORTH MIAMI

By Mel Page, WA4NHT

Since this is the first column of the year an introduction to N.O.M.A.R.C. is in order. The N.O.M.A.R.C. is located in the C.D. Headquarters of the No. Miami City Hall, 778 N.E. 125 St. meets every 2nd and 4th Thursday of the month at 2000 EST. Recent election of officers are Pres. Smitty-K4KRN, Vice Pres. Bill-K4ZDS, Sec. Glenn-WA4LHK, Tres. Al-WAFZV. A good bunch to get things done right.

We finally got it! The GALAXY 5 just arrived. Works great. This gives us a rig on all bands up to 2 mtrs. and using all modes too. Now we are really in business when SET comes on May 7. We are prepared for all emergencies too, with a 30 KW generator capable of running over 30 days in case of blackout. The air conditioned shack feels good too, hi. Last month we all enjoyed a demonstration of operation on 1296 Mcs by K4UGC-Fred. Very interesting indeed. Never knew that the refill of a ball point pen could be used for an antenna. The club decided to try to get a rig going on this band as Fred and a couple of others are really active on 1296 with good success. Plans for more lectures, movies, etc. are in the making for off meeting nights. Our last guest speaker was Mr. A. Gilbert Chief of the F.C.C. who spoke on radio interference. Naturally a question and answer period followed.

Tandy-K4YSN who now is a disc jockey for WEDR taped a 30 minute show down at the shack exploiting Ham Radio and C.D. Amazing what a sightless fellow can do. And we think we have problems. The membership also participated in the anniversary of the North Miami celebration. 50 years old. A parade and activities was enjoyed by all.

How about coming to a meeting? Everyone is invited and most welcome. Coffee and doughnuts too. So drop around at least to say hello.

73, Mel

SARASOTA AMATEUR

By Dick Tesar, WA4WIP

The club had its election of officers in December and the following were elected: President, Larry Loper, W4WHF, Vice-President, Bill Quig-

ley, K4QHN, Secretary, Dick Tesar, WA4WIP, Treasurer, H. H. Osburn, K4DYB, and Activities Manager, Ned Buck, W4TXE. The officers took over as of the first meeting in January. At that meeting, ARRL technical assistant, Lewis McCoy, W1ICP, attended and was the main speaker, giving an interesting talk on antennas and antenna systems. The meeting was well attended by hams from Sarasota, Bradenton, Venice, and Arcadia.

Many of the S.A.R.A. members journeyed to Miami to the Hamfest and seemed to thoroughly enjoy the trip, especially, talking DX to expeditioners, such as Gus, W4BPD, Harold, ZD8HL, Rick, ZD8RB, and others. Future programs for S.A.R.A. meetings were discussed with the VP-2VD boys and we hope to have them for a future program.

At the February meeting, General Telephone Company presented a program on the North American Air Defense in which a call was placed to the headquarters at Colorado Springs, Colorado.

A local 6 meter net has been established on 51.18 primarily for the transmitting and receiving of DX information between local hams. So far it is working fine and as others join the frequency, it will become very active.

Several local hams are very active on 3970 at 1430 GMT (9:30 AM) in which many of the tourams (Tourist Hams) join in with old friends from all over the U.S. They welcome anyone breaking in at this time. Also, the International Net is used quite extensively on 14235 by local hams.

S.A.R.A. is an active and going club, so look out for field day and other contests. Competition from us could be keen.

SOUTH MIAMI RADIO

By Charlie Lingo WA4RSX

Our March 18th meeting with Professor Julian Arroya-hypnotist instructing and entertaining, turned out to be a huge success. More people at-

tended than ever before; 20 members, 18 guests, 10 of which were XYL's and girl friends.

Pretty Joyce Doubart, the Professor's willing subject to be hypnotized did a fine job helping to entertain the meeting. Selling usable junk at the flea circus turned out so well (grossed \$36) that Jack Larabell and his ham salesmen are going to repeat Sunday, April 17th. Drop by and see us at Tropical Theatre and the bypass on Bird Road.

Delta Airlines came through with the instruction and entertainment for the April 1st meeting. One color film covered Delta's part in photographing the surface of the sun, with its flaming fury, sun spots, other causes of radio interference from 42,000 feet all during the last total eclipse of the sun. No wonder it's hot around here. We also saw the brighter and happier side of Puerto Rico by a travellog.

By this time, the fellows have gotten together to change the Hertz of the 2 M.F.M. transceivers they just bought for their cars.

All the crystals needed are on hand. We are hoping to have a General Electric Co. Sales Engineer on hand for our enlightenment at the meeting April 15th. We wish you all would come around and see our new meeting place and partake of the goodies. It's a log cabin on the Coral Gables Country Club golf course, a little way west of Cordova St., on South Greenaway Drive.

SUNCOAST ROVING

REPORTER

By Cathy Soehl, W4BAV

It is time to mark up your calendars for coming events. Many hams already are planning to attend the Orlando Hamfest, April 30th-May 1st; which as you read this will be a pleasant memory. The next date to check on your calendar is Sunday, May 15th, when the SPARC Hamfest will be held at Phillippe Park. Bring the family, friends, etc. with your picnic lunch. Registration will be \$1.00 per family and extra tickets at 50¢ or 3 for \$1.00 to try for all the goodies.

W4HUY - Smitty & XYL - Minnie are now residing at 5017 5th Ave. now. As Smitty has not been active on the air recently, many hams did not know of their move and got a real "jolt" when stopping at the Central Ave. address in St. Pete, only to find something else being built there.

W4UFR-Earl, in Tampa, is very proud of his beautiful roses, however, he is going to have some competition as son, Russell, is growing gladiolas. Anyone want to bet who has the prettiest flowers?

Congratulations and good luck to W4GJO-Grid, of Sarasota, who has qualified as a candidate for the Florida Senate.

SPARC members and hams in the St. Pete area were shocked to learn of the sudden passing of W4TCF-T.C. "Curley" Haseltine, March 15th. Curley was a Charter Member of SPARC and President in 1953. Our heartfelt sympathy to his XYL-Dolly and his son, W4PMK-Curt... Also sympathy to W4OHJ-Jack, another SPARC member, in the loss of his sister.

W4NOK/WA2RMC-Jack and XYL-WA4NFA-Frances are leaving their lovely home in St. Petersburg to return for their annual "rat-race" of operating their hotel and motel in Ocean City, N.J. Good luck, Folks, and hurry back.

SUNCOAST VHF CLUB

By Nancy WA4EDL

Hello again. I've been put back to work in more ways than one. Would like to start this years column with congrats to the new Club officers: President, K4NAN Brian Felps; Vice President, K4CNB Ned Harbert; Secretary, WA4EDL Nancy Harbert; Treasurer, WA4EEZ Leslie Johnson; Net Manager, K4HQA Art Bond, Program Chairman and Publicity Chairman will be appointed at the March meeting.

Got a land line from Cathy W4BAV, back in town for more transfer of belongings to the new QTH in Sara-

(Continued on Next Page)

RADIOGRAM

AMATEUR RADIO STATION

NO.	STATION OF ORIG.	CHECK	PLACE OF ORIGIN	DATE
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CLUB NEWS

SUNCOAST (Continued)

sota. Got their rigs working again and so good to hear her.

WA4ILY Pic has another new toy—RTTY going on 6 and Navy Mars. WA4ZRX (WA8BLS) Don has RTTY too, along with our EC W4FPC Mac. Boy, things around here are really growing. When we get our tower finished we hope to have a 2 meter FM connected with CD for use in AREC and RACES. The best laid plans of Hams etc.—working on the miserable tower for 6 months and weather and flu have put off the final sections but soon will have the 70' up.

K4CNB, Ned will have had a hidden transmitter hunt by the time you read this and there will be another later.

We extend to all a big welcome to our meetings the second Friday of each month 8:00 pm County CD headquarters. See you there.

April 8th meeting WA4KKS Slim gave a talk on transformers. He was in this business and the talk was very informative.

May 13th meeting W4WME Bill will give us a talk on Variable Condensers. Bill worked for Hammarlund for years. So all are invited to these and any of the future meetings.

Many special tours are in the planning for the group and their guests. Planning a May trip to the Cape. Will know what date soon as conformation comes. Anyone wishing to join us get in touch with me as I have a few seats left on the bus.

We hear that Don WA4FBV has a new hobby, slot racers. Hey Don, what happened to Golf?

W4PWB Walt and K4SCS Edna just returned from 10 days in Hawaii, admitted he took a portable lawn mower and hedge trimmers, with him. With all the square dance calling I wonder if he found time to use them??

K4HQA Art is building a transistorized walkie talkie on 6. Should be just about finished, will be listening for it. W4APV Jim is working out a walkie talkie for 2 meters and a new 2 meter FM rig. Should be done in a month or less.

WA4TIC Keith will be leaving us

for the North around the first of May. Last summer he toured Alaska, where to this year Keith? Have a safe trip where ever you go.

Well, the much planned and looked forward to—Orlando Hamfest is over for another year. We always enjoy this event, and look for the next one. See you?

PLATINUM COAST AMATEUR RADIO

The Platinum Coast Amateur Radio Society is in its second year with a membership of over 50.

The first year at the club got off the ground in fine style with Ted WA4DHI at the "MIKE".

The club meets at Elks Lodge in Melbourne Fla. the 2nd Monday of the month at 8 P.M.

The club has a 2 meter net at 8 p.m. on Tuesdays and a 10 meter net on Thursday. 2 meters 146.000 and 10 meter 28.6 Mc.

Net control looks for check ins from the south to west to north. We welcome all check ins.

Plans are going ahead for field day and other club activities. This coming year.

Club officers for the year 1966 are: Gene W. Starr, WA4JDB, President; Robt Roberson, WA4WEY, Vice Pres; John Gaston, W4VDM, Secretary; Chet Rector, K4OCD, Treasurer; Ted Woodbury, WA4DHI, Custodian. Directors: Chuck Cole, K4CMM; Tiny Winner, WA2JDL/4; Joe Norcross, WB4AGE; Joe Ambrose, WA4UZT.

TAMPA AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

NR 39 W4ZAG (VIA AMATEUR RADIO TELETYPE) NO CHECK. TAMPA FLORIDA

1500 7 APRIL 1966.

TO: ANDY CLARK EDITOR FLORIDA SKIP. MIAMI SPRINGS, FLORIDA. BT

Tampa Amateur Radio Club

On April 4th Glenn Averill, W4LLU presided at his first meeting as President. Due to the tornado that hit Tampa this morning, the attendance was smaller than expected. The results of the new officers were evident by programs that were had during April.

On the fourth Earl Miller, K4HFF, gave a very excellent talk on the need of impedance matching between transmitters and antenna. It is possible that the math involved may have been over the heads of some of the older members, because Earl talked in the "New Math Lingo." His talk stressed

the loss of radiated power due to antenna mismatch.

On April 18 Marvin Bostian, WA4HDK, gave a talk on relays and their use in the ham shack. He showed a number of practical circuits and a large variety of relays which he demonstrated during his presentation.

Another change that was evident was in the April issue of the TARC Bulletin. An entirely new format was used and a great deal of effort is being made to have more continuity through the Bulletin and to have a series of articles that will continue throughout the year.

Marvin M. Bostian, WA4HDK
April 6, 1966

(EDITOR'S NOTE: Another perfect copy via W4ZAG to W4IET).

WESTERN FLA. NEWS

Frank M. Butler, Jr. W4RKH

Tallahassee: WA4EOQ is going mobile with an HW-12. WA9NEW/4 has left FSU for new assignment in Louisiana.

Chipley: W4IKB went SSB all the way with S-Line.

Marianna: W4KCA and shack had a nice photo in FLORIDA SKIP.

Panama City: WA4FJL operated /mm and /KG4 while on extended sea duty. WA4FJF handled traffic for all the crew members. WA4NRP worked 24 stations and 5 states during recent 2-meter opening.

Seagrove Beach: It's good to have K4QVL back in the area again.

Fort Walton: WA7ABH has reactivated the EARS club newsletter. New officers of Playground Radio Club are: President, W4UXW; V. Pres., WA4HWX; Secretary—Treas., W4BVE; Custodian, W4IID. W4ZGS and WA4HWX are working on 432 Mc. gear. K5DCH/4, WB4CSI and WB4CNZ are now on 2-meters. W4MMW and W4BVE handled much of Central Florida tornado traffic.

Pensacola: Current operators at WA4ECY. Corry Field station, are K8MMD, WA6FUA and WA6ZLK. W4UUF is leading 2-meter DX'er, despite his noisy location. WA4HF moved to new QTH. W4ETE has new Drake R-4 and T-4K. K4ZDF got a Telrex beam.

VBARC

By Dennis Yontz WA4YFY

Indian River County has gained four new amateurs so far in 1966. All are graduates of our recent code and theory class. They are Neal Richardson, WN4CEZ, a high school senior. Bill Hamlin, WN4COG, a Tel-

ephone Company employee and his son Connie, a freshman in high school is WN4COM. Roger Hill, WN4COX, is also a high school senior.

Our last meeting on the 24th of March turned out to be one of better than usual attendance. It was decided that we purchase another Twoer for AREC. Speaking of AREC, the CD in Vero was granted money to buy a 60 ft. tower, skeleton antenna, and other small necessities. When installed this should give us a dependable link to Melbourne and maybe Orlando.

Robbie Rabenhorst, WA4VWY, secured a 2.5 KW generator for MARS. He reports that it is now installed and has been tried out on several nets. Robbie will be ready for the hurricane season when it comes.

It seems that I.J., WA4SCK, has been handling quite a bit of traffic messages lately. With all the Radiogram forms he's been using, I think we should start some sort of paper mill.

Things around my shack have generally been hectic. Between school assignments and other projects, I just haven't been able to spend enough time in the shack to do anything. Looks like I'll have to wait for summer vacation and hope I'll have more time to get something done.

73, Dennis

FLAMINGO NET

By W4EDP

With the onset of better weather the Xmitter hunts are getting better and better too. On March 6 a hunt was held with WA4BFX hidden. One of the rules of these hunts is that the hidden transmitter must be on public property and Clarence unknowingly was hidden on property that was a part of a housing setup where everything is private, including the roads and streets. We were all at the hidden transmitter site when up drives the cops, seems we had been reported to the police as trespassers. We explained to the gendarms what we were up to and everyone had a good laugh over it. The winner of the hunt was WA4GGJ, Kurt, and he did not use a loop either.

The next hunt was held on March 27, and WA4CGJ was the bunny. He had a good spot up in the north end of Hialeah in the middle of a dump, of all places, Carl, W4DTJ just made the hidden transmitter location when p-s-s-t went a tire. He had plenty of help to change it though, and who do you think was first in? Why Clarence of course, WA4BFX. We are going to have to break up that combination!!

Ten meters is starting to look up a little according to some of the net members who watch the band. Tom, W4PNS reported a FB WSO with ZL land a couple weeks ago, and on the same day a little later your column conductor had several contacts with the far west. So keep your eyes and ears on ten boys, the high bands will rise again.

Everyone is invited to sit in on the net sessions that hit the air at 7:30 PM every Friday, with the old curmudgeon himself W4GJ as net control. Information about the next scheduled hunt is passed around on the net, so get a lil loop on that mobile rig of yours, and get in on the fun. You might even win.



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Sneaky Emergency Test

By Bill Wells, K4RDP

One Sunday night, not too long ago, Mich W4UUW E.C. of Alachua County, received a telephone call from a Mr. Charles Sweat, Assistant Administrator of the Alachua General Hospital informing him that the switch board of the hospital had been destroyed by fire and the hospital was in dire need of communications. At the shock of that remark, Mr. Sweat terminated the phone conversation by hanging up the receiver. Mich immediately solicited the assistance of his XYL and the XYL of Ted K4DTM, to call all the ARPS/RACES members with Ten Meter mobile capabilities and for them to report ASAP from their mobile's to NCS W4UUW. Ted was immediately dispatched to take control of the hospital station K4DPZ/4. When the last of the mobile stations had checked in, NCS was transferred to the hospital and Mich was asked to pick up Mr. Pete Bethel, Area Civil Defense Director.

Mich and the other participating Mobile's assisted in locating the doctors requested.

Some were caught in varying aspects of "home life" (use your imagination) and one had to terminate his "shower" earlier than he had planned.

All of the doctors requested checked into the hospital via the mobile rigs and then and only then did anyone know that this was a Simulated Emergency Test.

Mr. Sweat, Mr. Bethel, Dr. Blank of Hospital Director Board Chairman and Dr. George Putnam, W4AUJX co-planners of this Sneaky Emergency Test were very happy and pleased with the results.

"Unplanned, unrehearsed and almost perfect," said Mich, W4UUW. Good show fellows, we're mighty proud of you.

73 Bill



No more QSO Parties for you OM.

A REVIEW IN THE CARE AND PROTECTION OF SOLID STATE DIODES

By JACK WAINWRIGHT, W4IEH

Silicon and germanium type diodes are found frequently in amateur equipment these days. Some of the more frequent applications are as follows: Power supplies, bias supplies, balanced modulators, rf output metering circuits, and SWR bridges. Solid state diodes are wonderful devices and offer many advantages. They will give long and faithful service if treated correctly. Some of the main enemies of solid state diodes, which cause shortened life and failure, are: heat, surges, transients and overload.

The initial installation in new equipment, or replacement in old, should be accomplished with the use of heat sinks on the diode leads—without exception. The heat sink may be in the form of long-nosed pliers held on the pigtail of the diode, a wet cloth held around the diode and pigtail, or small commercially made clip-on types, available at most parts houses. An alligator type clip may also be used. Apply the soldering iron only long enough to make a good solder joint. Soldering irons should be of the low-wattage pencil types—25 to 50 watts in most instances. The use of a small Variac with the iron is quite handy to limit heat to the desired amount and also prevents the iron from scaling and losing tinning. A word of caution: The use of soldering guns is to be avoided. The electromagnetic fields they set up may cause heavy induced alternating currents in the diode. This could ruin the diode.

When building rectifier stacks in series, two heat sinks must be used at the same time. The soldering of heavy stud type diodes such as are used in battery chargers and mobile alternator systems requires considerable heat to join heavier current carrying wire. To dissipate the heat quickly in these cases it is suggested in addition to the clip-on heat sink, a wet rag or an ice-cube

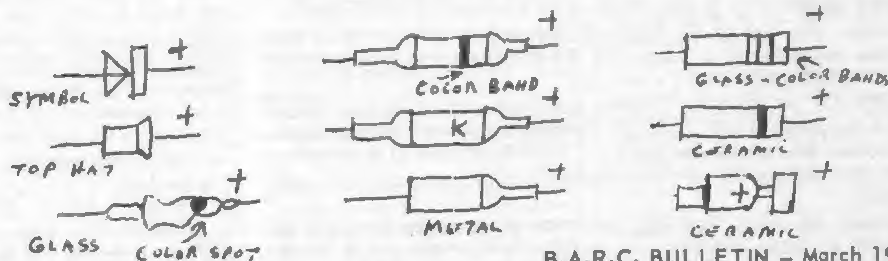
in a rag may be applied as soon as the iron is removed. A very quick and simple method is to spray the solder joint with freon if a small spray can is available. The placement of diodes in equipment is also important in regard to heat. They should not be placed adjacent to bleeder or heavy dropping resistors or other sources of heat in the equipment. In the case where heavy currents are used through the diodes, metal heat sinks of adequate area to dissipate the heat must be used. This usually applies to stud-mounted type diodes. The heat sinks may require insulation from the chassis and free- or forced-air movement.

The protection of silicon diodes in rectifier stacks from surges and transients is highly recommended. Unfortunately, many manufacturers omit these features in assembly. To protect the stacks from surges, a series-limiting resistor installed in each rectified leg will be sufficient. The values of 10 to 22 ohms at 5 to 10 watts will more than suffice in most cases. The use of a Thyrector diode across the power transformer primary is also an excellent device for surge protection. Transients, spikes and PIV drops may be guarded against by the use of .01 mfd disc condensers and 220K to 700K resistors, installed in parallel across each diode in the series stacks.

Care should be used to select a diode of the correct PIV and correct rating for the circuit involved. Replacement cross-references by manufacturers' numbers are available at all parts houses.

In conclusion, the little extra time spent in using heat sinks and installing surge and transient protection for diodes will pay off in the long run many times by long life and low failure rates.

DIODE MARKINGS



B.A.R.C. BULLETIN - March 1966

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SPARC
ANNUAL

H A M F E S T

SUNDAY, MAY 15

PHILIPPI PARK

SAFETY HARBOR, FLA.

9:00 A. M. TIL ???

REGISTRATION \$1.00 PER FAMILY

OLD FASHIONED HAMFEST

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MARS MILITARY AFFILIATE RADIO SYSTEM

BY AD4IHH, ASSISTANT DIRECTOR, FLA. 2

(EDITOR'S NOTE: This column was sent in its entirety by amateur RTTY on MARS frequencies from AD4IHH in Stuart, Florida, to AD4GKF, in Miami Springs, Florida, for delivery to A4IYT, Editor of FLA. SKIP.)

The meeting at Fort McPherson was well attended by members from Florida one and two. Those who went were treated to an excellent meeting covering many subjects of interest and importance. Colonel Keyser spoke about the importance of accurate and complete coverage of nets in times of emergency, and outlined some of the plans which will be tried in the immediate future to implement the communications capabilities of Army MARS. With the current distribution of large quantities of two meter equipment to all members, the thinking now is to supplement existing HF nets with the establishment of FM nets on two meters. Joe Ziglinski, chief engineer Army MARS, elaborated on this subject, and also explored at length causes and possible cures for some of the interference now found on the HF frequencies.

The highlight of the meeting, however, was an excellent illustrated talk by General Stillwell on the situation in Viet Nam. His comments, illustrated by slides, brought home to the members many of the problems our country faces in this war.

Attending the meeting from Florida 1 were A4EFM, A4DEI, AA4RDP, A4FZV, A4AJX, AA4ZRJ, AA4PVP, AD4ECA, AA4LQQ, AA4YCX, A4WEB, A4PSY, A4NRT, A4WMN, A4GVK, A4GAR and AL4AMR. Members who made the long trip from Florida two included AD4GKF, A4DRD, AD4WVE, AA4KKZ, AA4KHT, AA4EBG, A4ELR, A4WHF, AD4RLG and A4VPQ. Many nice prizes were awarded to the members at the meeting, with Gene, AA4KHT winning one of the big ones for Florida two, a Collins 51J3 receiver!!

All who attended agreed the meeting was an excellent one... even John, AD4GKF, who couldn't get plane space back home because of the college kids coming to Florida for their Easter vacation. He had to fly from Atlanta to New York, where the airlines put him on a plane for South America, and dumped him off at Miami...

We're all so thankful... Ken, AA4GUE and his family were on that ill-fated cruise ship the "Viking Princess" which burned earlier this month off Cuba... They lost a lot of their personal possessions but were rescued all right, and are now safe at home.

Coming up next, the big hamfest at Orlando on April 30 and May 1/ Red, A4HLO, and the rest of the nice people from Fla. 1 will once again be the gracious hosts at the MARS meeting, and it will be nice seeing you all there. The MARS meeting scheduled for ten A.M. on Sunday morning. We'll have a report next month.

DUMMY LOAD

In case you are looking for a relatively cheap dummy load don't forget the mazda-carbon filament lamp combination. The mazda's resistance when used alone varies all over the place depending on its brilliancy. The carbon does the same but in the opposite direction. Tied in parallel they compliment each other and you have a combination that is surprisingly flat until you pass the 14mc region.

For the 50-70 ohm area I find a 150 watt mazda and a 120 watt carbon job make an excellent pair for a quarter kw load. Where do you get the carbon lamps. That is a problem but I was able to scare up a couple without too much trouble. I am sure that asking around some of the smaller hole-in-the-wall electrical outfits will resurect some.

Onyx



This polaroid was taken of Herb Tuell, W4IRA of Clearwater. Herb is President of the Florida Sidebanders Assn. which meets each Sunday at 5 p.m. on 3940 kc. Herb will be heading up the FSBA meeting at the Orlando Hamfest April 30-May 1. See last month's issue of SKIP for W4IRA's famous SSB rig.

The Florida Side-Banders Assn.

By Jesse H. Morris, W4MVB

The Florida Side-Banders Association has for some time been carrying out a program to improve the amateur radio facilities at the Florida School for the Deaf and Blind at St. Augustine. Bart, W4SCY, has been the chairman of this project and has done a fine job. Many others have helped. We hope to make a full report in SKIP in the near future.

April QST shows that there were a number of FSBA members who participated in Sweepstakes last fall. Among those were: W4QBY, WA4IYG, WA4NEV, WA4HDH, and W4MVB. There were probably others who didn't send in their logs.

March brought five new members and one old member to the Association. On March 6th Mr. Elmer T. Birchfield, WB4AIW, was certified as member number 257. On that same day Mr. John C. Kagan, WA4VEI, was certified as member number 258. On March 13th Mr. Kenneth L. Brace, K4QCG, was certified as member number 259. On March 20th Mr. William C. Bauer, K4RDB, was re-certified as member number 114. Nice to have Bill back after a couple of years. On that same day Mr. Wendell K. Merck, WA4NBT, was certified as member number 260 and Mr. Joe Albrecht, WA4EYY, was certified as member number 261. The Association welcomes these gentlemen.

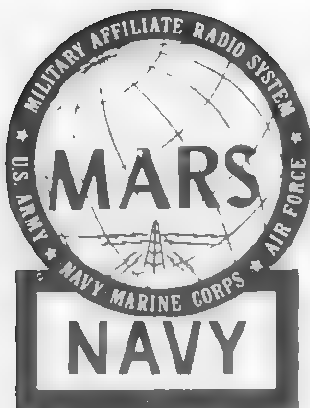
We are looking forward to a very large turn-out at Orlando this year. The dinner is all set for Saturday night. There will be a drawing at the dinner and the winner will receive seventy-five dollars and the runner-up will receive twenty-five dollars. All active members of the Association in good standing will participate in the drawing.

Another item of business that will take place at the Orlando Hamfest is the discussion of the emergency network of mobiles. Vance has been working on this project and hopes to get some ideas from those attending on the operations of such a network.

If you have any junk (excuse me, "surplus items") you don't need bring it along to Orlando and put it on the table to be set up for the benefit of the Association. There will be a table set aside for such items and all proceeds are to go to the treasury.

Mr. Anthon Litchauer, W4JQ, our long time Treasurer became a life member this month having finally arrived at the "legal age." Congratulations Tony!

That is about all for another month. April should be a good month as the weather becomes nice. I hope to see all of you in Orlando and if not '73 and good luck until next month.



By Jim Wilson,
WA4RXG
N0WCK

The three Area Coordinators for Navy MARS in Florida are greatly encouraged by the steady recruitment of new members throughout the state.

In the South Florida Area considerable traffic was handled both locally and from distant points in connection with the tornadoes which swept across Central Florida. Much of this welfare traffic came in on our transcontinental traffic nets.

Additional Viet Nam traffic also is going through as additional Navy MARS stations are being authorized in that country. This will facilitate delivery to the men in the field and speed their replies. Most of this is being handled on RTTY.

During March, South Florida members had more than 260 hours of participation and handled 406 formal messages.

South Florida was fortunate to secure a truckload of modern RTT gear for use by Navy MARS members.

One of the more popular nets in the South Florida area is on 4015 KC USB or CW at 2200Z daily except Sunday.

In N.E. Florida, Navy MARS Area Coordinator N0ADY reports that at present there is a USB net on 4015 at 6:30 PM on Mondays and Wednesdays. The mode on that same frequency is CW on Tuesdays, and Thursdays. On Fridays either mode is acceptable and the hour period is used for training.

Each night the traffic rep who is going to the 4040 KC CW 6th Naval District net comes aboard to pick up local traffic. It is interesting to note that Ivan, N0ADY, is Ex ZL2BL.

This SKIP correspondent will be glad to answer any questions about the Navy MARS program.

New ARPS Manual

A new manual on Amateur Radio Public Service Communications is now available free of charge from ARRL Headquarters. The new publication on emergency and traffic operations discusses the Amateur Radio Emergency Corps, the National Traffic System and the Radio Amateur Civil Emergency Service.

This twenty-six page publication is available from the ARRL Communications Department, 225 Main Street, Newington, Connecticut 06111.

DX Cards

You might make mention of the fact that I am QSL manager for VP5RB in Florida Skip. I have already sent out over 2,000 QSL cards but I don't send to the W-K gang unless they enclose SASEs. There are hundreds who can get their GRAND TURK cards if they just send me an envelope.

George R. Caron, W4RC
P.O. Box 322
Boca Raton, Fla. 33432

VHF EASTERN FLORIDA

Bertha Farr Eggert, WA4BMC

Greetings to all you VHF'ers. Ten meters has been open now and then, with some rare DX. I have yet to hear a good six meter opening, but it won't be long now. By the time you read this, we all should have worked almost all call areas, on six meters, and we should have had some wonderful openings on two meters.

Al, WA4FZV, reports that things are slow in Miami area on six meters. He is assistant VHF-PAM for Dade County and net manager for DEN. Since October 18 there has been 55 check ins and 7 messages and several OBs. Many of the DEN members check into the BEN. (Broward emergency net).

Tom, W4FP, assistant VHF-PAM Polk County area, writes that he has been doing quite a bit of monitoring on the six meter band and he notices that there are a large number of new techs and generals appearing, both on six and two meters. Many are going up to 51 and 51.5 to have some two way contacts locally instead of the roundtable which reaches as many as fifteen or more some nights.

Jess, W4MVB, assistant VHF-PAM Jacksonville area, writes, that he has got his two meter antenna up again and has been holding skeds with W4ZXI in Miami every night for a while, on CW, on 144.016 at 0200 gmt. W4ZXI, Russ, has a KW and two 8 over 8 J-Beams. I have heard both of them.

Jess hopes to resume skeds with WA4NRP, Otis, and Dick, WA4FLJ, very soon. So he can try to relay traffic from Miami. Jess is going to put a KW on 2 meters. He is so busy, that I don't understand how he does all that he does. He has his KW for 432 just about half finished. Grid, W4GJO in Sarasota,

Jess also adds "One other item of note; W4GUJ, John, has a Parks 432 converter and preamp and has worked all three other Jacksonville stations crossband on 432. He hopes

(Continued on Page 14)

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SCM's CORNER E/F

BY "HAM" K4SJH

It has been a long time since I have found it necessary to say anything about handling traffic in our section but a little review seems necessary now.

Not only have many complaints been received by this office but personal observation by myself and by my PAMs and RMs have confirmed the fact that we have been sliding into certain habits that are not generally considered good practice for any trafficker.

Many operators continue to attempt to censor messages for other than FCC text content reasons. Trying to place an "important traffic" tag on almost any message without knowing the purpose and intent of the originator is well-nigh impossible. One other thing to consider is that what reads important to one person may sound just the opposite to another. When accepting a message for relay or delivery our only concern is to move the traffic as quickly and accurately as possible. According to "the book" we are authorized to handle any traffic that meets with the requirements of the FCC regulations. The only place where a trafficker has the moral right to refuse to accept a message is at the point of origination—that is, if he considers himself to be what is normally known as a traffic handler. Of course, any amateur can refuse to handle any traffic but then it is difficult to see how he could successfully be included as a member of a traffic net.

What am I driving at? Okay. One specific example. An operator checks into a traffic net. This automatically indicates that he is ready, willing and able to pass traffic to others or to accept messages for either relay or delivery. Certainly it is nice to be able to receive a message and, either use the phone number that may be part of the address or to look it up in the phone book. Does said traffickers' responsibility for delivery end at this point? Not everyone has a phone or perhaps the number is unlisted. We still have use of the mails. Unfortunately it costs money to mail a message but if this is the only way to deliver then mail should be used. It costs money to collect stamps, to run a model railroad, to be a Science Fiction fan. It costs very little money to deliver messages that require mail service—comparatively speaking. A ham spends hundreds of dollars for equipment but then balks at a small amount each month to enable him to enjoy the traffic handling aspect of this great hobby. Of course there is a bit of extra work involved also with preparing the message for mailing but isn't this also a part of this fascinating hobby?

Please remember that I am not criticizing anyone nor am I saying that any ham must do anything beyond what the FCC requires in the pursuit of his hobby. I do wonder however, why a trafficker takes up this activity when he does not intend to follow through with it. Sending and receiving messages is the least important part of the action, except where accuracy and reasonable speed are concerned. Isn't the final delivery what makes the whole thing worthwhile?

One more thought. Certainly you can receive a message,

FLORIDA SKIP - BOX 501 - MIAMI SPRINGS, FLA.

Here is my

GIFT Subscription to FLORIDA SKIP
for my friend:

Name & Call _____

Address _____

City, State _____

& Zip _____

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☐ \$5.00 three years

PLEASE INCLUDE GIFT CARD WITH HIS FIRST ISSUE

Dear Mabel

Before some time ago I did read the March—issue of QST and got very interested in your Florida Skip XYL Award.

I have been licensed since July 1958 and have been most active on 14 Mc CW, because the bad conditions here above the arctic circle more seldom permits Phone-working, and especially DX-work. I have only made one QSO on phone on 14 Mc with States, but on 21 Mc it has been a number.

I am NRRLs district-officer for the local gang here in Harstad—a little town with about 15,000 inhabitants in the town itself and the nearest surroundings. We have about 30 licensed hams in the club, and about the same number coming men. At a 600 foot high hill near the town we have our clubhouse with our clubstation LA1H QRV on all bands except 28 Mc. From the clubstation we have made several hundred W-QSOs, and we will be glad to help Ws to their WALA-diploma. (At least 20 LA-QSOs and of these at least 6 QSOs with LA-stns situated north of the Arctic Circle).

Well, back to the XYL-Award again. I was born in 1929 on July 22th. My QTH is in Solstien 19, Harstad, Norway. My XYL is named Eldbjorg and she was born in 1933 on September 14th. I do not know if you need all these dates of ours personally.

I will be very appreciated to

PUBLIC SERVICE

About twenty-five members of NOFARS, BARS (Jacksonville area) and the Duval County AR-EC took part in the annual "Good Turn Day" in which the area Boy Scouts and Goodwill Industries co-operated in gathering items donated to Goodwill Industries.

There were a number of trucks volunteered from various firms in the city to pick up the bags at collection points around the county. It was the job of the amateurs to coordinate these pick-ups. Two meter FM was used for the most part and the operation was a huge success. The U.S. Navy provided volunteers to unload the trucks at Goodwill Headquarters.

This is another example of how amateur radio can be used for the public good. 73

W4MVB, Jacksonville

SUPPORT SKIP ADVERTISERS

see the XYL-Award, a real honor to my XYL.

All the best from us here in the Northern Norway
Martin Nordli-Mathisen/
LA5FG

check for the phone number and, not finding any, service the message back to the originator. This is essentially non-delivery due to insufficient effort. You cannot truthfully say "insufficient address" because telephone numbers are not actually required. I agree however that all originators of traffic should obtain in all practical cases a phone number to add to the address. It makes delivery a lot easier—and cheaper—with less work. I suppose that we could declare people without telephones sort of "persona-non-grata" or refuse to originate any traffic that does not contain a phone number in the address. When you read it, it does sound a bit unreasonable doesn't it?

The only way that I can suggest for an operator who wishes only traffic that he can telephone or who still wishes to do justice to the "image of the trafficker" is to make arrangements with the Net Controls to see that he receives only such messages that contain phone numbers. I wonder how many will buy that.

This is intended to be an open discussion of the problem. I hope that it will result in an agreement on what constitutes fair treatment of the messages that we handle. Certainly if we continue acting as at present we will achieve nothing but the alienation of a fair sized chunk of the general public that we are attempting to serve.

THINK IT OVER—PLEASE.

Letters

(Continued from Page 2)

bang up job during and after our recent tornadoes. The Hillsborough County CD RACES circuit was manned 'round the clock by 99% amateur operators for a week. The other 1% were paid CD employees holding third class permits and RACES certifications. Here's the letter:

Dade City, Florida
1005 Tait Ave.
April 9, 1966

To amateur operators: Open Line to Viet Nam.

Thank you so very much for the birthday greeting you sent to my son on March 15th - his 21st birthday. He wrote and says tell you he and the boys with him there on the job really got a thrill out of that message. It was a happy surprise which helped to cheer up the gang. Thanks again so very much from both of us. You are doing a great job for the boy's morale over there. I hope this message can go through as well as that other one. Sincerely,

/s/ Mrs. Laura Ellis

73,
Jim Apsey, K4YQQ/NØXFQ

Editor SKIP:

I thought I might offer a few thoughts or words in answer to W4MVB's editorial (April, page 2).

It seems in order for an amateur to survive, he must be a public servant for message/disaster etc. handling or be of some similar public service. Other IATU countries DO NOT require this in order to hold an amateur license. You know, ham radio was for, and still is for, people who wished to further the art of new circuit ideas etc. The hams developed 200 meters and down, not the public service a bit or the government. It seems the many natural disasters that this country has had, have shown the Government communications systems to be no stronger than the weakest link, so ham radio seems to fill in this gap.

I'm all for public service when needed, and to be ready for it also, but it can be and is being overdone. Where do you think the trained people came from for WWII? From the hams. (I was sent a telegram asking me to go to work in N.J. at the outbreak of WWII and I was only 18 years old then.) This was a public service of a type, but people with a technical background are needed too, not a message originator/handler/de-

Award Hunters

The Award Hunters' Club International ("AHC") publishes a circular of award and certificate rules. This "AHC Bulletin" is widely spread all over the world and read by the most skilled award hunters. In many countries the Bulletin also serves as a good source for award information re-issued in the local amateur radio magazines and bulletins.

The practice of the AHC is to issue only information on awards received direct from the publishers, in order to submit reliable and up-to-date rules.

Kindly please send us complete rules of the award(s) your

liverer, as he cannot repair a piece of electronics equipment, only use it. Well, enough for now.

I really enjoy Florida SKIP and I know you are doing a wonderful job.

Sincerely,
James R. Abele, W4LUP
Jacksonville, Fla.

Club issues. In addition to the requirements we should appreciate the following details separately: the official abbreviation of the name of the award, the exact address for the applications, and possibly a list of stations necessary to contact for the award. We shall give publicity to the rules as soon as they come here, at no charge to you.

The "AHC Bulletin" consists of 20 loose sheets each issue. The rules of each award are on a separate sheet for easy filing purposes. Until the end of 1965 we have issued 880 sheets (44 issues) of award rules and we still have plenty of information obtained indirectly. Now we should like to check this information with your help (concerning your award(s), and add it to our collection. If you are interested in the Bulletin, please ask for sample. The subscription fee is \$3.00 for 12 issues (or the equivalent in any currency).

Thank you in advance!

73!

The Award Hunters' Club
International
John Velamo, OH2YV
Secretary
c/o Velamo, Isokaari 4-
B-30,
Lauttasaari, Finland

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Ralph Peters K4RKY at the Veterans Hospital in Bay Pines owns this neat station. 'Pete' has been a patient there for 13 years. He reports handling many, many phone patches for other patients there and is active in Veterans Administration Hospital Net. He also maintains a 4 channel stereo which is piped to each patients bed. Look for K4RKY on 75 SSB.

VHF EASTERN FLORIDA (Continued from Page 11)

to have a transmitter on soon."

The new EC for Palm Beach County is Bill, WA4RQR. He appointed Slim, WA4AZZ as assistant VHF EC for two meters. Slim has started a net on Wednesday nights at 8:30 PM EST, on 145.350. The net has had 3 sessions already. The first night, there were 13 check-ins, from Eau Gallie to Ft. Lauderdale. The second week, there were 17 check-ins, from Eau Gallie, through Port Salerno, Jupiter, West Palm Beach, Lake Worth, Okeechobee, Delray Beach, Pompano Beach to Ft. Lauderdale. The third week there were 25 check-ins, starting with Eau Gallie to the north, and including Stuart and Ft. Pierce, Lantana, and going as far as Hollywood. We welcome check-ins from all areas. Slim will tune and turn the beam. He is my OM, and we use the same station. So look for the net on Wednesday nights on 145.350 at 8:30 PM est.

Best DX to you all, in the coming months on two, six, ten, 220 and 432 and on up.

Bertha Farr Eggert WA4BMC

FLORIDA SKIP Contest Chairman

Thank you to the Florida amateurs who participated in the contest and caused me to enjoy a very pleasant weekend. My score for the cw section is as follows:

QSO's 24 x 12 counties equals

288 total points
I hope to work many of these same guys in the Iowa QSO party on April 10.

Thank you.

Yours truly
Richard Wilson WA0KST
Storm Lake, Iowa

TOP TWENTY TRAFFIC TAKERS

Each month we are happy to list the top 20 Florida traffic takers. We hope to see your call here next month.

For March 1966:

1. W3CUL/4	BPL	2018	11. W4TUB	218
2. W4DFU	BPL	1219	12. WA4NBT	189
3. WA4SCK	BPL	845	13. WA4LJH	179
4. WB4AIW	BPL	541	14. W3VR/4	177
5. WA4NEV	BPL	410	15. K4BSS/4	169
6. W4FPC		381	16. K4EVY	165
7. K4VFX		293	17. W4AKB	144
8. WA4IMC		256	18. W4BVE	137
9. WA4RQR		254	19. W4EHW	126
10. WA4BMC	BPL	224	20. WA4DEL	122



FLORIDORA News

By Cathy Seehl - W4BAV

Well, Gals, as you read this the Orlando Hamfest will be almost over and a new set of officers installed in the Floridora organization. Here's hoping our next year will be as successful and as well handled as did the outgoing officers. As this is my last contribution, as "pinch-hitting" Publicity Chairman, may I say it has been a pleasure to assist in my small way; however, it is not an easy job and I beg of you to give your next correspondent to SKIP full cooperation and every little bit of news, even though it may not seem important or news worthy to you.

Seems all I every report is sad or bad news! We were all shocked and sorry to hear that K4UIZ-Ev, Floridora President, was involved in an accident Friday, April 1st, was admitted to the Orange Memorial Hospital with a broken collar bone. On the Floridora Net, the following Tuesday, a happy note was injected when the report was given that X-rays were to be taken and if the bones were healing, Ev would be permitted to go home the next day. Good luck, Ev. and we are all pulling for you.

K4RNS-Marge advised that their Post Office address has been changed to Ormand Beach, Fla., 32074; even though the 1700 Nova Road remained the same. Please change your records accordingly...Marge also reported the total Floridora certificates issued is 381.... Marge's friends from Miami, were fortunate in just missing the tornado that ripped across the State, on their way to visit the Cambells.

W4QBY-Dorothea was very much interested in a camper belonging to her guests who travelled from California to visit her. Hope the weather was not bad during their entire stay. HI!

K4LFA-Dot, OM, K4ENW-George and harmonics have moved from St. Petersburg to 3908 LaJune, Titusville, Fla.

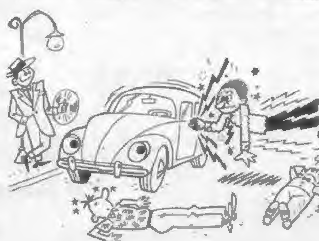
K4RHL-Ellie had rig trouble and was unable to check into the net April 5th, though she called W4CWV-Annette to advise she was listening. However, she got the trouble fixed and checked in late. No word to date from the FCC concerning W4FE as Floridora official call.

W4BAV-Cathy and OM, Bill - W2HJM have been busy entertaining friends and hams from the North. K4TNB-F.G. "Mac" McKinley and KYL-Flora, from Arlington, Va.; W2CE/W4ZO-George Beck and KYL-Betty; from Freeport, N.Y. and Orange Springs, Fla.; W8CXX-Bill Kingsbury and KYL-Lecta, from Blue Ash, Ohio; and Ethel and Joe Plate, from Amityville, N.Y. The Plates travelled all the way to St. Petersburg, through bad weather without a mishap until reaching their destination, where a car side-swiped their trailer and car, causing a thousand dollars worth of damage. Hence, they have not been able to follow their plans of visiting many friends and relatives on the West and East Coast of Florida before returning home by April 15th.

Congratulations to K4WXS-Lee on her appointment as OBS, made by K4SJH-Ham at a recent SPARC meeting.

FLASH!

Have you seen the Motorola Transistor Display and Service Center at Amateur Radio Center? They have all kinds available for ready sale; Power types up to 15 amps, Mesa jobs up to 100 megacycle, Little audio miniatures, and some voltage control silicon diodes. First time we have seen these devices so readily available.



IS YOUR RIG GROUNDED?

HAMBAR

NOTE: Florida Skip does not assume any responsibility for condition, price, etc. of any items listed in this column.

This column is FREE to any licensed Radio Amateur who is a subscriber to Florida Skip, limit 3 per year. Additional \$1.00 each. Non-subscribers and non-amateurs \$1.00 each up to 10 lines. All listings are cancelled each month. If your listing is not moved, it will be necessary to relist the following month.

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SALE OR TRADE: Complete Ham Rig: WRL-5B-175 with AC supply, cable, key, xtal for novice 21mc; NC-190 with spkr; Gotham V80, coax; 100 kc xtal cal; 3 manuals, \$200.00 or Drake 2B with Spkr, Jess Sargent W4TEM, 114 Oleander, Neptune Beach, Fla. 32050, 249-5940.

FOR SALE: HT-87 with mic., about 2 yrs old \$265.00; Heath VHF-1 Seneca, 6 & 2 meters with mike \$125.00. Joseph E. Warren WA4-RVT, 3402 San Pedro St., Tampa, Florida 33609, Ph. 832-2363.

WANTED: TA-33 Jr. reflector and director elements. No not need driven el but would consider complete antenna. Walt Stock W4HS, 117 N.W. 100th St., Miami Shores, Fla., 33160 Ph PL 4-2995.

FOR SALE: Heathkit: HW-12, \$100.00, HA-14 KW Kompaet \$90.00, HP-14 DC supply \$61.00; Hammarlund HK-1B keyer \$20.00; Drake RV-3 remote VFO, \$60.00, all above in excellent condition. Herb Tuell, W4IRA, 1878 Lakeview Rd., Clearwater, Fla., Ph 442-3432.

FOR SALE: EX-26 receiver, lone patch, Q-5'er, preselector; ART-13 with AC supply, DC on file and relays, grid block keying, switchable carbon-hi imp inputs, and phone patch. \$140 for complete package or will sell separately All but ART-13 in 5' rack on casters. George Strait W4CBE, 5014 Elfrida Ave., Sarasota, Florida.

FOR SALE: Code practice oscillator vol/tone, 110 v. ac. \$6.00. 30 watts 12 inch speaker housed in black metal cabinet, \$8.00, it has 500 ohm or 8 ohm input. Pierson KE-99 mobile amateur band receiver with a.c. and d.c. Pierson power supplies and speaker. \$65.00. AR-87 mike and cord. \$4.00 with stand. Andy Clark W4IYT, 41 Lenape Dr., Miami Springs, Fla. 33166 Phone 888-3874.

FOR SALE: SR 160 and AC supply, 8 mo. old, like new; Gonset GC 105 xcvr, like new; ARC-6; xmr 4-5.3, 5.3-7, revrs (3); PRM 7 receiver, AF-68 xmr both A1 shape. Gene W. Starr WA4JBB, 886 Clarke Ave., Eau Gallie, Fla., 32944-4431 nite, 363-8641 day.

FOR SALE: RME-46 receiver and Johnson Viking I transmitter in operating condition. Desperately need crank up tower - 30 footer, free standing, no guys. Eileen Gould WA4BAK, 3885 SW 36th St., Miami, FL 33133. Phone HI 6-1233.

WANTED: 800 Cycle mechanical filter and gear reduction knob for Collins 75A4 receiver. John A. Attaway, Box 205, Winter Haven, FL 33981. Phone 293-2434.

FOR SALE: COLLINS 3281, 51F AC, 75S-1 with walter Q 312-B4 station control 10-D mike VDK, PPT stand. \$775.00. Heath HW-32 20 meter with 100 kc calibrator, HP-13, 12 volt d.c. power supply, VOX, PPT mike, Hustler 20 meter antenna and mount \$180.00. 4-1000A linear, 220 volt, 4000 volt power supply, Dow change over relay, filter. \$180.00. RBS-40 tower with ground post, Ham-M rotator, Mosley TA-36 with 24 foot boom tribander. \$240.00. Bob Thompson WA4GRP, 13705 S.W. 73rd Ct., Miami Phone 235-8402.

WANTED: One 250 uuf .045 inch spacing. Two 100uuf .125 spacing and one dual variable .125 spacing. 100 uuf. Same as required for antenna coupler in the Handbook, page 354, 1965 edition. WANTED good schematic and details on flea power transistorized transceiver for 80 meters, cw or phone. Frank Rogers, W4TZY, 6988 Malaleuca Rd., Cocoa, FL.

FOR SALE: HT-19, 300 watt VFO xmr, 4-55 final, new pwr xmr, newly aligned \$75.00; 400W homebrew GG linear, pr 6J5e's, integral PS, 20 watts drive pwr \$55.00; 2 mtr FM rcvr \$10.00; ART-13 unmod. \$35.; 1 base, 1 mobile FM 10 mtr xcvrs, 35 W in 5 1/2 ft rack and 10 W respectively, \$30.00 cpt, Extra xmr \$5.; Elmac PMR-5 with 6 volt supply \$30. Lot approx 400 ancient tubes UV 199, 26, 60, 76 etc \$10.00 takes em; pr 4CX 1000 A's brand new \$200.00 or consider trade for xcvr. Jim Edris WA4TBM, CE 5-8996 or write 20520 Jacaranda Rd., Miami, Fla. 33157.

FOR SALE: Heath HW-12 with DC supply, cal, mike \$125.00; RTTY printer and converter with built-in scope, also various accessories at no extra cost \$100.00. Dick W4VAF, 321-77th Ave., St. Petersburg Beach, Fla.

FOR SALE: Globe King 400B 400 watt AM xmr complete with Hallcraft HT-18 VFO, Johnson TR switch in EXCELLENT condition, with coils for all bands, \$200.00; another Globe King and HT-18 with all coils in GOOD condition \$180.00. WANTED: good used 2kw PEP SSB final to be used with Collins 3281. Mac W4IKB, Box 545, Chipley, Fla.

FOR SALE: INSURANCE for the preservation of Amateur Radio. The price is nominal, your registration and occasional participation in the AREC. In Broward Co. free details available from Hank K4EVY, Rt. 1, Box 677, Ft. Lauderdale, Fla.

WANTED: Tower at least 40 ft., crank up, tilt over, EZWay or equiv. Cathy Soehl W4BAV, 647 Jungle Way, Sarasota, Fla., 355-8514.

WANTED: Navy surplus RTTY TU unit seen at Broward auction, owner pse contact G.M. Hunt W4NUT, JA 3-7533, Ft. Lauderdale, Fla.

FOR SALE: HW-12 xcvr with mobile and fixed pwr supplies, Hustler mobile mast and whip, not scratch on rig, looks new and works perfect group only, you pick up \$240.00. Dr. Layton K4HNS, 9190 S.W. 40th Terr., Miami, Fla., CA 1-8388.

FOR SALE: Spl price; 3V4-60¢, 3DG4-\$1., 1B3-75¢, 1J3-75¢, 5U-4GB-50¢, 6AX4GT-65¢, 6BU6-85¢, 6CG7-65¢, 6DQ6-\$1., 6AU6-50¢, 6J6-65¢, 6OC6-45¢, 12BN7-80¢, plus postage. Raytheon Distributor: write price other types. G.H. George W4FJU, 504 E. Osceola, Clewiston, Fla., 33440.

WANTED: State CD is seeking the services of communication coordinators for Tallahassee, Stark and Stuart. Applicants must have at least Radiotelephone 2nd and General ham licenses and be experienced in radio operation and maintenance. Contact Captain G. Grange, State CD Agency, 1045 Riverside Ave., Jacksonville, Fla. 32204

FOR SALE: HQ-170 and HQ-145X, also Heath Apache, all vry good condition, make offer. Derrick W. Vogt WA4TWM, 130 Venice East Blvd., Venice, Fla. 33595.

FOR SALE: Hygain 16 mtr antenna \$15.00; Telrex 20M-56-112 20 mtr beam with balun and RG/8 \$45.00; Solid state PS, 115VAC input, 180-VDC@500 ma out, \$15.00. Manuals with antennas. George Strait W4CBE, 5014 Elfrida Ave., Sarasota, Fla.

FOR SALE: Globe matcher Sr, AT-4 80-10 with built-in SWR bridge and manual, \$32.00; 2 ea 1646B, new \$6. C.W. Schiffer W4AKB, 7701 SW 53rd Ct., Miami, Fla. 33143.

FOR SALE: B&W 61-SB SSB adapter, mint condition with compressor/amplifier, \$125.00 T.D. Sprink W4AW, 2145 NE 62 Ct., Ft. Lauderdale, Fla., Fone 933-7508.

FOR SALE: HT-41 Linear excellent condx, will demonstrate or deliver 50 mile radius, extra pr 7094 final tubes, \$150.00. Clifford Lougee WA4RDL, 998 SW 11 Ct., Boca Raton, Fla., 33432, 395-0455.

FOR SALE: HRO-50 excellent condition. A-B-C-D bandspread coils, \$95. George Bitterman W4QDD, 2731 SW 14th St., Miami, Fla. Phone HI 6-6337.

FOR SALE: HT-32, looks and works new \$250.00; Heath RX-1 receiver, excellent condx \$135.00. Pres Graham W4FDA, 7305 May Apple Road, Jacksonville, Fla., 32211, Ph 725-4453.

FOR SALE: CE 100V xmr, factory reconditioned, \$375.00, Drake 2B, crystal calibrator \$175.00. J. Clawson W4PTW, 1636 Brickell Ave., Miami, Fla., Ph. 373-8259.

FOR SALE: Clegg 6 mtr 700 watt SSB/AM station; Clegg Apollo linear \$185, Venus and AC-mpk \$350, SS booster \$45, all for \$495.00, all latest production in warranty; Collins KWM-2, 638-1 VHF conv, \$18F-2 AC, factory new, best offer. WANTED: Bird Thurlthwaite Wattmeter. J.W. Gregory, K4OCK, 6495 Killian Dr., Miami, Fla., 33156, Ph MO 1-7578.

FOR SALE: 32V3-\$200.00; HRO-7 with 4 coils 10-160 mhz \$100.00, H.C. King K4GU, 232 Connecticut St., Zephyrhills, Fla.

WHY?

It's 1530 EST on a Saturday afternoon on the lone portion of the 7mc band and this bird has been calling CQ for the past 20 minutes. He is not only a ham but also holds a commercial ticket and has been in the game for ages so he says. I wonder what it is going to take to wake up some of these individuals with operating habits that went out with spark?

I don't think we need incentive licensing—we need a re-examination in the whole activity including acceptable and up to date operating techniques. Guess what! — the fellow is now working a Cuban!!

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WANTED! Dead or Alive AMATEUR NEEDED

FOURTH MONTH

There is a need for any Dade County amateur who holds a General Class license or better to take on the duties of ARRL emergency coordinator. This is a most important job. One of the most important in amateur radio.

With over 1800 amateurs in Dade County do we have just one who is willing to take on this important job?

For further details contact your Eastern Florida Section Emergency Coordinator for ARRL, Andy Clark W4IYT, 41 Lenape Dr., Miami Springs. Phone 888-3874.

DISASTER AT SEA

(Continued from Page 1)

ing wind and the sloshing of the waves against the side of the ship below could be heard. We had slumped into deck chairs aft on the port side of the main deck to enjoy the enchantment of a tropical moon at sea when Dot said, "What time is it getting to be?" I looked at my watch and realized that I hadn't set it ahead as we were entering the Eastern time zone that night--so did it then. It was 0105, Good Friday--April 8, 1966.

We arose from the deck chairs and went aft to the quarterdeck, curious to see if the prop was still churning but on looking up toward the smoke stack noticed heavy black smoke belching out of the funnel in full volume and an odor of burning paint cut thru the air.

A crew member or two appeared on the deck below wearing life jackets and I said to Dot, "If they think they need them, so do I." -- and proceeded to go below to our state-room to get them. After I got the life jackets, I picked up Dot's purse and grabbed three cameras and a pair of binoculars from a hook by their straps and also a transistor portable radio. When I entered the companion-way from our stateroom which had plunged into darkness when the main generator went out, the dim emergency lights also flickered out and I groped my way up on deck where we donned the jackets and waited on our muster station.

By this time hundred of passengers in all sorts of attire were gathering on the muster stations excitedly querying each other and adjusting their life jackets. Shortly after an Officer (the Purser) in charge of our muster station told us not to be alarmed, that they had a fire in the engine room and the Captain had passed the word that they thought they could control it. However the lifeboats were being made ready just in case we had to leave the ship.

The whole crew seemed to disappear, officers and men alike--they all seemed to work together automatically like a fine piece of machinery. Almost like magic, the davits swung out and the boats were made ready to lower away--in a matter of minutes.

Finally the order came, to man the life boats, "Women and children first!", we were told--and that was the way it went.



This happy group is the Tallahassee Amateur Radio Club. 1st row; L to R: WA4EAO, YPI8s boy Larry, WA4YPO, K4-YPI, W4OYR. 2nd row: W4SG, W4GAA, W4DKT, A1, W5GVE-4. 3rd row: Gordon, Mel, Mel Jr., John, WA4SRR. Back row: K4BXO, W4KCA, W9NEW/4, WA4SJB and WA4IBL.

(Photo by W4IKB)

After about three quarters of the first two boats on our station were filled, they ordered some men aboard to help the four-man crew in the boats.

When this order was given I then joined Dot in #7 lifeboat and took up a rowing station. These boats, we had been told earlier in a fire drill, would hold 99 passengers--and we were just about up to capacity. A woman on the same seat as I slumped over and we called for a doctor. A passenger on deck who was a doctor came aboard our crowded boat to administer to her. She had had a heart attack and although he massaged her heart and gave her mouth-to-mouth resuscitation, --we lost her.

After the boat hit the water, the heaving seas picked us up and slammed us violently against the unyielding side of the ship.

TO BE CONTINUED
NEXT MONTH

TORNADO

(Continued from Page 1)

with P-2. Bravo handled one P-2 from Okinawa.

This may be the only Condition Four operation in history which ended up with more nets running than when it began!

There was tremendously good coverage from the nets from the disaster areas by stations in Lakeland, Tampa, St. Pete, and other stricken places. With all the answers going back, too many were incorrectly rated ROUTINE or P-2. All the outgoing answers were properly straight PRIORITY and probably should have been slugged HXA for prompt long distance telephone delivery by whatever station got 'em first.

Armed Forces Day

A final reminder that this year's annual Armed Forces Day will be held May 21st, 1966. Space does not permit in its entirety of all frequencies and modes to be used by WAR, NSS, AIR, and NPG.

The CW receiving contest of 25 wpm will be broadcast at 220300 GMT, by WAR on 3347, 9662; NSS on 3269, 4015, 7301; AIR on 3397, 7315; frequencies in kc. These are your best frequencies for Florida.

The RTTY receiving contest will be conducted at 220333 GMT by WAR on 3347 and 6992 kc; NSS on 4012 and 7380 kc; AIR on 7315 kc.

Transcriptions should be submitted as received. No attempt should be made to correct possible transmission errors. Mail to Armed Forces Day Contest, Room 5B960, The Pentagon, Washington, D.C. 20315 and postmarked not later than 31 May 1966.

For a complete listing of military to amateur tests we suggest you check CQ and QST. Good luck.



"Now we can reach out much farther with our tom-toms."

Florida QSO

At deadline time (April 10th) we have received a mounting number of QSO PARTY logs from all over the USA and Canada. Received 14 more today for a total of 76. Wow, what a contest! All logs sent to FLORIDA SKIP are being forwarded to our Contest Chairman Dave Hayden, W4WHK, of Orange Park. Dave has a real job on his hands, believe me. Here are just a few SOAPBOX remarks. Final scores will be published in the June SKIP. Are you making plans for Field Day?

"Nice party, wish I had done better. Worked every single one of you boys that I heard. Lost my big 20 meter beam in our big blizzard of Mar. 22 or maybe I could have heard some of the ones in the mud and have been heard a little better." Cliff Taylor, W0EQN, Iowa.

"A real lively party and a swell group of operators. Plan retirement to your Sunshine State in September and hope to make the round of clubs wherever located. A list would be appreciated." George Cooke, W20BU, N.Y.

"We left St. Augustine at 1845 Saturday evening but the park ranger had locked the house and removed the fuse. He brought the fuse, but no key, so we operated under the moon and bathed in gnatt repellent (no mosquitoes, just sand flies in clouds). One end of the inverted vee was tied to a pail in the inland waterway, so we had a good antenna site." Jud West, W4UHC, at W4WSB/4, Flagler Co.

"This is the first QSO party in Fla. (my home state) for me and I thoroughly enjoyed it. Picked up a few new counties, too. As secretary-treasurer for the Low County ARC, I'd like to invite all Florida hams to participate in the first South Carolina QSO party--tentative date August 13th and 14th. Look for the announcement in QST. Hope to see many Florida amateurs join in." Jeannie K4-RHU, S.C.

"This was a fine contest. Hope it is better next year. Sure glad to see such fine ops as W4WHK, W4YDD, W4BJ, and W4BYB in there." Mike Kirby, K4VFX, Pinellas Co.

Florida SKIP urges all participating stations to get your logs in as soon as possible.